

REMARKS

FORMAL MATTERS:

Claims 19, 21-58 and 60-76 have been examined.

Claims 19, 21-33, 36-55, 58 and 60-76 have been rejected.

Claims 34, 35, 56 and 57 have been objected to for being dependent upon a rejected base claim but were otherwise indicated to be allowable if written in independent form.

By this amendment, dependent claims 34, 56 and 57 have been rewritten in independent format to include the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

Claims 1-33, 36-55 and 58-76 have been canceled without prejudice.

Claims 34, 35, 56 and 57 are pending after entry of the amendments set forth herein.

OBJECTIONS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 34, 35, 56 and 57 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. As the Examiner suggests, independent claims 34, 56 and 57 have been rewritten in independent format. As claim 35 depends from claim 34, the Applicant requests allowance of claims 34, 35, 56 and 57.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 19, 21-33, 36-55, 58, and 60-75 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Fleischman, et al. (US 6,648,900).

As these claims have been canceled, this rejection has been rendered moot.

CONCLUSION

The Applicant submits that all of the claims are in condition for allowance, which action is requested. If the Examiner finds that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees for extensions of time, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0815, order number CNVG-007CON2.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: 10 Nov. 2005

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